



September 6, 2016

KANSAS BULLETIN NO. KS300-16-40

SUBJECT: LTP–Fiscal Year 2017 Environmental Quality Incentives Program Cutoff Date

Action Required: November 18, 2016

Purpose: To announce the fiscal year (FY) 2017 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) general and initiatives application evaluation period cutoff date and to provide direction on announcing program availability.

Expiration Date: September 30, 2017

The FY2017 application evaluation period cutoff date of EQIP financial assistance funds has been set for **November 18, 2016**. Application for EQIP funds are to be accepted on a continuing basis; however, applications received after this date will be processed in the next evaluation period. If funds are not utilized, a second application evaluation period cutoff date may be announced.

General EQIP and Initiatives are now included in this evaluation period. **This is a change from previous years.** The following are affected by this cutoff date:

- FY17 High Tunnel System
- FY17 On-Farm Energy
- FY17 Organic Certified
- FY17 Organic Transition
- Kansas Ogallala Aquifer Initiative
- Lesser Prairie–Chicken Initiative
- Monarch Butterfly Project

NOTE: The National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) application cutoff date will be established at a later time. All other applications received after this date will be kept in “pending” status in Program Contracts System (ProTracts) until a new cutoff date is announced. Application evaluation and ranking must not occur until the applicant eligibility is determined. After eligibility is determined, applications may be moved to “eligible” or “ineligible” status in ProTracts per Title 440, Conservation Programs Manual (CPM), Part 512, Section 512.24.

Per Title 440, CPM, Part 512, Section 512.27, eligible but unfunded applications from the previous funding period are to be set to “deferred” status. A deferral letter is available in ProTracts and will be sent to the participant(s). Participants are given the option to continue with

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the application as is, modify the application, or cancel the application. Cancellations must be documented and the application designated as “cancelled” in ProTracts. Deferred applications that participants wish to continue with will be “promoted” to the next FY in ProTracts.

NOTE: An application for any deceased person will be canceled. Successors willing to continue the application must sign a new application.

Dates for ProTracts entries, screening tool entries, ranking and peer reviews, second level reviews, and funding decisions, will be issued by future bulletins.

Designated conservationists shall announce FY2017 program availability. News releases and advertisements are available on the Kansas Share Point.

Contact: Forward questions, through established channels, to Monty R. Breneman, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, at 785-823-4569 or Monty.Breneman@ks.usda.gov

(signed)

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State Conservationist